

Kitchen have fed thousands of displaced people and first responders for the Carr, Ranch and River Fires. World Central Kitchen joined forces with Guy Fieri, Operation BBQ Relief, local chefs and residents to provide meals to those affected by the fire. World Central Kitchen, with the assistance of these groups, prepared and served over 2,000 meals per day.

Mr. Speaker, José Andrés has contributed tremendously to help our community that has been affected by the fires in Northern California. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

COLORADO MESA UNIVERSITY “E”
AWARD TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colorado Mesa University for its receipt of the President's “E” Award for 2018. The “E” Award is the nation's highest recognition bestowed on those making significant contributions toward expanding American exports.

Institutions of higher education who have received the award are often represented by larger, internationally well-known universities. With an enrollment of just under 11,000, Colorado Mesa University, located in the relatively small city of Grand Junction, Colorado, has demonstrated its ability to compete with the biggest and best in the nation.

Through its International Student Admissions and Programs office, Colorado Mesa University has steadily increased the number of international students enrolled, representing over 30 different countries. While completing their studies, these students contribute significantly to the local economy, but importantly, they also develop local relationships and an appreciation of the many goods and services offered from our nation's smaller communities and the small businesses that call them home.

When these students return to their home countries and begin their professional careers, those relationships forged during their studies can translate into export opportunities for small businesses in Grand Junction and many other small communities in America, who, despite their rich potential, are all too often overlooked. Colorado Mesa University serves an invaluable role in putting Grand Junction, Colorado on the international map and creating new and exciting opportunities for local businesses.

Mr. Speaker, Colorado Mesa University has shown that rural America and our nation's many wonderful small and mid-size colleges can stand shoulder-to-shoulder with their urban and larger counterparts in growing American exports. I am honored to recognize their achievement of the President's “E” Award.

HONORING VELMA DAVIS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable commu-

nity servant, Velma Davis. Velma has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and the desire to live a long and fruitful life.

Velma Davis was born in 1903 in the Thornton Community of Holmes County. She received her education at the St. Francis Catholic School and attended the Yazoo High School Number Two. Ms. Davis continued her education with courses from Holmes Community College, Jackson State University and the Tuskegee Alabama Institute.

Ms. Davis entered adulthood during a time of great change in Mississippi. It was the era when most of her daily activities took place in segregated facilities. In 1957, Ms. Davis began working at the Kings Daughters Hospital in Yazoo City where she worked for 13 years. She was one of the first African Americans hired to work at Kings Daughters, and she witnessed the changes that slowly took place as the hospital opened its door to the entire community.

After several years had passed, she went to work at the E & W Plant in Yazoo City, where she was involved in the production of clothing. In 1973, she began working for the Headstart in Yazoo City, when it was a part of the Community Action and Cooperative Program. While working at Headstart for over 36 years, Velma maintained a very active social life while being a mother to five children.

She was involved with the American Legion Post No. 201 Women's Auxiliary and the Yazoo Community Action Program, and during that time she worked part time for 24 years with the Warren Yazoo Mental Health.

Velma's long job history includes working for the Centers for Disease Control in Adult Immunizations, part-time sales clerk for two years at the Black and White Department Store, and a CNA for the Betty Pyles Nursing Register for 5 years at the Care Inn in Yazoo City. Ms. Davis worked on the Community Response Emergency Team for six years, an American Red Cross CPR and First Aid Instructor for five years and she worked with the Deep South Organization for four years.

In 2010, Velma retired from Headstart, after three decades of service to the children of Yazoo City. After retirement she got involved with NCBA Program, which trains seniors to do different things so they can be employed. In 2012, she began working at the Yazoo County Human Resources Agency as the activity coordinator where she hosts several activities for seniors such as health screenings, birthday outings and more.

She is an active member of Beulah Land Baptist Church, where she is the vice president of the church choir. Ms. Davis works with MAP Headstart as the Chairperson over the Health Advisory Committee, and holds the office of Treasury of the Yazoo County TRIAD through the District Attorney's Office. She is also a member of the Yazoo County Fair and Civic Leach choir.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Velma Davis for her dedication and tenacity to serving her community and desire to be an example for all.

IN HONOR OF JAMES W. MELE FOR
30 YEARS OF COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague Mr. DENHAM, to honor the service of Sheriff James Mele for his 30 years of outstanding leadership in Tuolumne County.

In 1988, he joined the Tuolumne County Sheriff's Office as a Jail Deputy Recruit. In just two years he was promoted to Jail Sergeant and then upon graduation from POST Academy in 1990 to Deputy Sheriff. He was a member of the SWAT team and was promoted to Investigator where he was appointed to a drug task force called ACNET. After serving as an Investigator he was promoted to Sergeant. As a Sergeant he supervised in patrol and then as a Narcotics Sergeant in 2003, and Investigations Sergeant in 2005.

Elected Sheriff in 2006, Jim devotedly served the citizens of Tuolumne County for another 12 years. As Sheriff he founded: the Crisis Negotiation Team, the Public Information and Community Outreach team, and the Rural and Agricultural Crimes Unit. He reinvented the K9 program and initiated the Risk, Vulnerability, Assessment, Strategy for school violence. Jim fought for the Sheriff “J.H” Dambacher Detention Center scheduled to open in 2019.

Jim earned his BA in Criminal Justice Management at the Union Institute & University in 2000; his Executive Master of Leadership from the University of Southern California in 2014; and in 2017 graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy in Quantico, Virginia.

Jim was awarded the California Association of Tactical Officers “Darrell F. Gates Memorial Police Executive of the Year.” As Sheriff, he served as a member of the California State Sheriffs Association, The California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System 911 Board, and the California Narcotics Officer Association.

Alongside his service to keeping his community safe, Jim has also led several laudable activities: as a Sonora High School football coach, a youth baseball and soccer coach, a Bishop in his Church, a High Councilman of Girls Camp Liahona, a member of the Civic Advisory Board at Adventist Health and Sonora Rotary, and a Scout Master in the Boy Scouts of America; bolstered by his experience of achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

Mr. Speaker, Sheriff James Mele has an incomparable record of protecting and serving his community. He has set an example of outstanding leadership for us all.

TRIBUTE TO SHERYL AND
LEONARD RICHARDSON

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Sheryl and

Leonard Richardson of College Springs, Iowa on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Sheryl and Leonard's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary, I hope it is filled with happy memories. May their commitment grow even stronger, as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be on the House floor for the first vote on July 23, 2018, because my flight from Oregon was delayed. If I had been present I would have voted in favor of H.R. 2345, the National Suicide Hotline Improvement Act. This bill seeks to improve access to emergency services for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis by requiring the Federal Communications Commission to study the feasibility of creating a three-digit dialing code for a national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system. I will continue to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to make it easier for individuals to access medical care, including mental health care.

HONORING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF LINNIE LEONA GATEWOOD GALLUPS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 100th birthday of Linnie Leona Gatewood Gallups.

Leona was born on October 2, 1918. On August 8, 1937, she married Samuel Matthew Gallups.

Leona was a homemaker and cared for children, including her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, during the work day. She served as a foster parent and kept the nursery at Ladonia Baptist Church where she has been a member since 1961.

After her husband had a massive stroke, she took care of him for 15 years.

Leona loves gardening, flowers and arts and crafts. She also loves to bake cakes for others. Leona is known around town for her crafts. She spends a lot of time watching Fox News and is very fond of President Trump.

Her friends and family are surprising her with a birthday party on Sunday, September 30th at her home in Phenix City, Alabama.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing Leona a very happy 100th birthday.

CELEBRATING THE OPENING OF ADIRONDACK HALL AT SUNY ADIRONDACK

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize SUNY Adirondack on officially opening Adirondack Hall.

SUNY Adirondack is a regional leader in education. Since its founding in 1961, SUNY Adirondack has created opportunities for growth and excellence in the North Country. Through its community-oriented mission and emphasis on workforce development, the University paves the way for students to succeed while serving the unique needs of the Adirondack community.

In support of this mission, SUNY Adirondack constructed Adirondack Hall, a new building complex that will provide modernized spaces for students to innovate and thrive as they work toward their goals for the future. Adirondack Hall will feature Business Central and the Center for Entrepreneurship, the Office of Continuing Education, the Northwest Bay Conference Center, and state-of-the-art classrooms and labs in support of science and health careers.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I want to congratulate SUNY Adirondack on opening its new facilities. We are grateful to SUNY Adirondack for its commitment to educating the North Country community, and look forward to seeing students and faculty benefit from this new expansion for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING MEMBERS OF THE UTAH INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN FORUM

HON. JOHN R. CURTIS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Mr. CURTIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Samuel Elzinga, Damon Ashcraft, and Andrew Jensen, members of the Utah International Mountain Forum, a coalition of student clubs at Utah Valley University, on their recent success at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the auspices of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on July 19, 2018 in New York. During general debates at that global forum, they highlighted the importance of advocating for mountain communities, who are among the most impoverished and forgotten communities globally. They demonstrated student engaged learning, one of UVU's core philosophies, by planning every aspect of the trip, while Dr. Baktybek Abdissaev, a UVU faculty member, served them as a mentor to guide them through their endeavors. Through this engaged learning model, Samuel, Andrew, and Damon engaged also such non-governmental organization registered with the ECOSOC as the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences, the Mountain Institute, and Utah China Friendship Improvement Sharing Hands

Development and Cooperation. As a result, those NGOs provided them an opportunity to make an oral and written statement, highlighting the state of Utah as a model for sustainable mountain development. Utah is consistently ranked as one of the best states for doing business and has some of the fastest growing communities in the country. I am very proud they highlighted how students are able and have to be counted as contributors to sustainable development both in Utah and mountain communities worldwide. Below is their oral statement, which was presented during ECOSOC's general debate on July 19, 2018:

MOUNTAIN TARGETS IMPLEMENTATIONS THROUGH STUDENT ENGAGED LEARNING

We thank the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences for allowing us to speak in support of mountain communities, who are among the poorest and most-neglected globally. Climate change and migration make their living conditions even worse. According to a recent study by the FAO-UN and the Mountain Partnership (MP) Secretariat, an estimated 39 percent of the mountain population in developing countries are vulnerable to food insecurity. From 2000 to 2012, there was a 30-percent increase in the number of mountain people vulnerable to food insecurity, with their population only increasing by 16 percent.

Two SDGs under the review of this forum contain three mountain targets and it must address the challenges facing mountain communities: Target 6.6: by 2020, protect and restore water related ecosystems, including mountains, . . . ; Target 15.1: by 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular . . . mountains and drylands. . . ; Target 15.4: by 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development.

Since 2007, Utah Valley University, with the support of the Mountain Partnership, involves students, including nontraditional ones, in the implementation of mountain targets. Members of the Utah International Mountain Forum (UIMF), a coalition of student clubs at UVU, gain professional skills through an engaged learning model by addressing real-world problems of mountain communities with a faculty serving them as a mentor.

UIMF members have already advocated for the mountain women during the 62nd session of the Commission on the Status of Women. Students, jointly with their Kyrgyz peers, reported about hosting the International Women of the Mountains conferences as an implementation of the UN Resolution "International Year of Mountains, 2002." The 2016 UN Secretary-General's Report on Sustainable Mountain Development featured recommendations provided by UIMF in the latest conference document about the role women play in implementation of two mountain targets. Through the model students raised and contributed \$250,000 to the mountain targets adoption and implementation.

The model demonstrates that students are able and must play an active role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It can be used by universities in rural and mountainous states worldwide to provide similar benefits to students, and to transform mountain communities towards sustainable and resilient societies.